6 March, 2015

From the Principal
Dear Parents

A big thank you must go to the Peters family (Ted, Ned and Harry). On the weekend as part of Clean Up Australia Day they cleaned up our school grounds. The feedback they gave me was the amount of plastic slips that hold the popper straws that were lying around our school was ridiculously high. If your child has a popper can you talk to them about disposing of that plastic piece correctly - which is in the bin.

Absence
Thank you everyone who has been responding to our text messages. Our unexplained absences have dropped dramatically. We now ask you, if you can, to text your child’s absence to us before you get a text as that then does not cost the school any money. Remember you can text anytime day (BEFORE 9.30am) or night. The number you text is 0427 016 460 and advise student’s name, class and reason for absence.

Visit from ARD – Mrs Trudi Graham
This year my supervisor has changed and it is Mrs Trudi Graham. Trudi was the Principal of Mount Archer State School. Trudi visited our school on Wednesday and spent some time in the lower year’s classroom where she observed our literacy block and the support people of Sherryle, Cresta, Vicki, Jill, Tina and Chris in action. She was very impressed that 3 mornings a week we can support our year levels with an extra teacher in the room as well as the teacher aide.

Senior Shirts
This year due to a variety of reasons we will not be having a shirt for year 6 with all the students’ names on the back. This year we are going to introduce a Seniors shirt that our first year of having year 6 as seniors will choose. This shirt will then become the shirt for our Year 6 year level every year. We have had a small group of parents tirelessly working on choosing 4 designs that will go to the Year 6 classes today to vote on which one they want. (This is the process we have used in previous years). After that the P & C will order the shirts and we are hoping for them to be in stock at the tuckshop early term 2. Year 6 students do not have to purchase one, they can still wear their Emerald State School uniform shirt or they can choose to purchase the senior shirt and wear it as their uniform or a combination of both. In the future the plan is that the Seniors shirt will become the uniform for our Year 6 students.

Before and After School
Thank you to parents for working with us to encourage the ‘before school procedures’ of coming straight to the under covered area as part of your child’s morning routine. This ensures that we, as a school, can keep our students as safe as possible. If you are not sure of the routine I have set it out below.

• As soon as you get to school, proceed to the under covered area with your bag. (Do not go to port racks)
• All students must sit in the covered play area. They must remain seated in this area until the bell is rung at 8.40am.
• All adventure playgrounds and the oval are out of bounds (even with parent supervision)
• Sporting equipment is not allowed out at this time.

After school, please also ensure your students know where to wait for you and that you talk to them about staying off the playground equipment and not climbing trees while they wait for you, as again this is a high risk time for accidents to happen. In all year levels, but especially PREP and Year 1, we are encouraging students to
develop their independence and be responsible for their own belongings. This includes unpacking, packing and collecting their belongings. To assist the children with this, we ask that all parents wait along the garden wall to meet their children. Once the final bell has rung, it is important for children to go directly to their prearranged pick up area as the playgrounds are unsupervised and, for safety reasons, are not to be used.

Remember that you being late in the morning or coming into the classroom unexpectedly in the afternoon disrupts not only your child’s learning, but the learning of others. Please talk to your teacher about when it is good for you to be in the classroom helping or, if you wish to talk with the teacher about your child’s learning, please make an appointment. Remember we do want you to be part of your child’s learning it is just getting the right combination.

Friday – Representative Shirts
On Fridays, unless attending an excursion away from school, students may wear representative shirts they have earned in place of their normal school shirt (eg Emerald District Sports shirts). Please note that this special permission does not include sports bucket hats.

Fete
Don’t forget our fete in only 21 sleeps away. Please keep your eye out for the fete newsletter. Also, the small committee meets in the library every Tuesday afternoon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Library News
Thank you to all those organized parents/carers who are ensuring their child/children are bringing their library books back regularly each week. We appreciate your support.

Students’ borrowing period is for a fortnight but we usually only expect only older students who are reading larger novels to do this. Younger students are expected to return their books weekly.

The changes in Read With Me Club are being ironed out as we go. A few teething problems often occur with change. If you’ve read the parent information letter and are still not sure how it all works, please drop in to the library before or after school and I will be more than happy to talk you through it. Basically, we expect the students to read 4 times per week for their homework RWM sheet. This is compulsory homework and not optional. If your child is a voracious reader and is keen to earn extra points for their team, they may wish to write whole books completed on their ‘Stars of State’ sheet. They may enter 10 books this term. Once the sheets are completed, sign them off and send them in to the teacher who will pass them on to the library. We will collate the points and let the school know the running total.

As always, we encourage students to read for pleasure as much and often as possible as this will support them at school and later in life.

Have you heard of the Bilby (Book I Love Best Yearly) awards? This is an annual reading initiative of the CBCA (Children’s Book Council of Australia) Qld branch. Children throughout Qld nominate the book they love the best this year. 2 rules – can’t be a series but can be a book in a series and can’t have won in the last 2 years. After term 1 the nominations are counted and the top 6 books in each age category are released. Students are asked to read the books they haven’t read from the short list and vote for their favourite. Winners are announced in term 3. Students can vote at school at the library or at home. They can only vote once. Go to http://www.cbcagld.org/bilby-nominations.html to find out more and/or vote. Please have a chat with your child about what your favourite book was when you were young and compare it to theirs. A love of reading should be nurtured like a garden!

BOOK CLUB
Issue 2 catalogues have now gone home with students. Please look out for them and have any orders submitted on LOOP or returned to the box in the library by:
Monday 16th March
Contact Shae for any help on:
shae.stokes@aapt.net.au or 0419 811 963

Cleaners Cup
Week 6 - Mrs Marsh and 2A

Student of the Week
Week 5
Alex C – Prep A
Matilda R – Prep B
Heidi C – 1A
Astin B – 1B
Erika N – 2A
Hady W – 2B
Thomas P – 3A
Paige V – 3B
Holly T – 4A
Skye W – 5A
Lillie R – 5B
Bridge G – 6A
Olivia C – 6B

Week 6
Brodie S – Prep B
Adysyn-jean M – 1A
Rene B – 1B
Matilda D – 2A
Zac S – 2B
Landen L – 3A
Mave B – 3B
Ethan G – 5B
Cooper C – 5B
Will C – 5B
Sebastian S – 6A
Sando W – 6B

Congratulations
If you would like to see what books we have in our collection – perhaps search for a favourite title to see if it’s available or check out some non-fiction for research purposes, go to http://emeraldss.emeraldgem.cpcap.cmeweb.libcode.com.au/

This is our online search engine. Once you have searched for a subject/title etc. you will be shown a great range of other search engines to browse through. There are some helpful tabs with information you may be interested in also. If you have any suggestions about what you’d like to see included in this area please let me know.

At first lunch we have organized activities for the students when they come and visit the library.

Monday – G movie (at present ‘Alice in Wonderland’),
Tuesday – construction and board games,
Wednesday – puppet shows and free choice activities,
Thursday – colouring and drawing,
Friday – digital devices (iPads, iPods, computer games).

We have a display area where children have been writing why they love the library (Library Lovers Day was 14th February) – come and have a look!

If you have any suitable books you don’t need any more, please consider donating them to Thangool State School library that has lost 80% of its books due to the floods caused by the recent cyclone. The have zero Junior Fiction books left.

Yours in the joy of reading,
Mrs Nolan

**PE News**

**Netball**
Our first district team trials begin next Thursday. Many thanks to all the girls who trialled and worked hard in our end of summer heat. Congratulations to Harper H, Olivia C, Piper B, Claudia B, Claudia F, Maddie B, Maddison C, Charli R, Darci R and Skye W who were successful in making it to represent the school at the District trials. Good luck.

**Touch Football**
Our touch football try outs for both girls and boys will be held next Tuesday and Wednesday at school. At lunch time we are presently holding games on the oval. We are very fortunate to have many skilled players striving for spots to go to the district trials.

**Rugby League and Basketball**
Trials are coming up soon. Keep an ear out.

Have a great fortnight
Jill Ryan

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| **Representative Sports Calendar for 10, 11 and 12 year old students** |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| **Sport**  | **District** | **Central Highlands** | **Capricornia** |
| **Date/ Venue** | **Date / Venue** | **Date/ Venue** |
| Swimming | NA | Paper nomination | 16 February | Rhampton |
| Netball | 3.30pm Thurs 12 March | Wednesday 1 April | Tuesday 28 April |
| 11 and U 12 years girl | Emerald | Emerald | Emerald |
| Rugby League | 3pm Thurs 19 March | Tue 31 March | Sun/Mon 3-4 May |
| 11 & 12 | McIndoe Park | Emerald | Gladstone |
| Rugby League | Tue 31 March | Sun/Mon 3-4 May |
| Girls | Emerald | Gladstone |
| Basketball | Nomination to CH via school | 30 March | 27 April |
| – Under 12, boys and girls | Emerald | Moranbah | Mackay |
| Touch Football | Tues 17 March | Wed 6 May | Mon 18 May |
| Girls & boys | 3.30pm Emerald | Moranbah | Moranbah |
| Soccer – boys & girls | 3.30pm Thurs 23 April | Tuesday 5 May | Sun/Mon |
| | Emerald | 24/25 May | Moranbah |
| Cross Country – girls & boys 10 to 12 yrs | Fri 8 May 8.30am | Wed 20 May | Mon 1 June |
| | Emerald (Marist College) | Springsure | Rhampton |
| Rugby Union U 12 | Thurs 14 May 3.30pm | Mon 1 June | Mon 15 June |
| Morton Park Emerald | Blackwater | Emerald |
| Track & Field – boys & girls 10 to 12 years | Fri 19 June 3.30pm | Mon 20 July | Tuesday 18 August |
| Marist College All Day | Morton Park Emerald | Emerald | Rockhampton |
| Australian Football League | Paper nomination to Cap Trials | - | Mon 30 March |
| Tennis | School | - | Rhampton |
| Cricket Boys and Girls | Thurs 6 Aug 3.30pm | Fri 21 August | Sun/Mon |
| | Emerald (Epic) | Moranbah | 6/7 Sept |
| | | | Gladstone |
Tuckshop Highlights

On-Line Canteen (ordering)
Please be reminded of the following process to ensure your order is placed correctly through the on-line ordering system.

- Enter your Order
- Click ‘CONFIRM’
- Wait for the “Thank you” notice
- Go to ACTIVE ORDERS and double check your order is confirmed.

Unfortunately the order cannot go through to us unless these instructions are followed.

Birthday Treat Packs
Thank you to one of our Tuckshop Volunteers who recently told us about Birthday Treat Packs that were available on the tuckshop menu at a previous school that she was involved in, great idea!

We will have available for parents to pre-order at least 2 days before your child’s birthday; a birthday treat pack through Tuckshop that we can arrange to send to the classroom on your behalf for your child’s birthday. Parents organising birthday treats through tuckshop will need to check with your child’s teacher if there are any special dietary requirements.

Options we are looking into:
- Jelly Cups Plain
- Frog in the Pond Jelly Cup (Blue jelly with Freddo Frog Chocolate)
- Jelly Cups with custard
- Party favour Bags for Junior classes (will include 6 items per bag eg: balloon, lolly pop, stickers, eraser, pencils, freddo frog, jewellery, colouring in, sticky notes, toy, hair clips/ties, ball, joke, high lighter, music toy etc)
- In Season Fruit Platter
- Ice Creams or Ice Blocks
- Ice-cream Cake
- Cupcakes

If you have any added ideas that we could perhaps include; please bring these ideas to us at Tuckshop. Watch this space...we hope to have this up and running from the start of Term 2.

RED DAY TUCKSHOP
We have decided to do a Sausage Sizzle on the last day of Term 1 in place of Tuckshop. As this day is also our Cross Country Trials Day there will be parents / carers with siblings that do not attend our school that may also wish to purchase food and drinks at our POP UP Tuckshop Station on the day.

Watch out for the order forms that will be sent home with your children to pre-order RED DAY tuckshop for students. If you would like a Pack for younger siblings, please send in an additional order for the sibling. Why is it called Red Day? Red Day tuckshop will contain food that isn’t normally provided through tuckshop. Tuckshop normally provides Green food (everyday foods) and Amber food (occasional foods).

If you are able to volunteer to help with cooking the BBQ from 9.30am or work at our POP UP Tuckshop for sales on Thursday 2nd April, please let Michelle or Megan know in tuckshop.

Sushi
Reminder: make sure sushi is eaten straight away and not saved for later. This applies to all foods that need to be refrigerated or kept warm.

Week 7 - Chicken & Mango Salad
Ingredients: Chicken, Mango, Bacon, Spinach Leaves, Shallots with Mayo & Sweet Chilli Sauce Dressing.
(Cashews available in this salad to teachers and staff only)
$5 per serve

Week 8 - Back by Popular Demand - Roast Pumpkin & Cous Cous Salad
Ingredients:
Cous Cous, Roasted Pumpkin, Snow Peas and Spinach Leaves with a Lemon Dressing
$5 per serve

P & C News
Firstly, a big thank you must be extended to our Grants Officers, Loretta Allen and Liz Alexander. They have two grant applications in the pipeline, one pending and the other to be submitted later this year. These ladies would greatly appreciate help when applying for grants, even ringing around to get quotes from various suppliers would be helpful. The P&C was successful in being awarded a grant from the Central Highlands Regional Council ANZAC Centenary Special Sponsorship Round to build an ANZAC commemorative
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garden on the school grounds. A working bee to implement this project will take place in the near future.

During the last year, the P&C has raised a substantial amount of money through the efforts of our hard working volunteers. At the February meeting, it was proposed the strategic direction for the next 2-3 years be, “to improve the environmental conditions, both inside and outside of the classroom, for the students to enhance their learning outcomes.” Donations towards regular programs such as the school camps and Sunshine Online will continue. Also, sufficient funds will be set aside for future learning programs as these arise and to cater for projects that have already been allocated for, such as the Computer Lab up-grade at the start of 2016.

After discussions at the last P&C meeting and subsequent feedback from parents and staff a number of possible projects have been identified and are listed below. Some of the projects require a small amount of funding and can be done straight away, whereas, others are large scale programs which may require further investigation by a working group of interested people.

| Storage Space | Classrooms above the tuckshop had storage units built around the room at the end of 2013 and these have been greatly appreciated by the teachers for organising and storing resources. There are already plans drawn up for other classrooms. |
| Blinds | To reduce glare in classrooms especially around the Smart boards. |
| Fridges | Fridges for all classrooms from Prep to Year 6. This project would need a working group to investigate the logistics and implementation of this program. |
| Box Trailer | To purchase a multipurpose box trailer for the school. This would be used to transport sports equipment, Easter Fete and Christmas Craft Fair furniture and be used as a general school trailer. |
| Shade Sails Outside Prep - Year 1 Classrooms | To cover the concrete area outside these classrooms, seating could then be placed there and used for reading groups etc. |
| Cold water Taps | There is only one set of cold water taps in the parade area which results in student congestion at break times. An additional set of cold water taps under the Year 6 block would ease this congestion. |
| Sandpit | The sandpit in the Prep area needs to have the sand replenished. |
| Garden Beds | To improve various garden beds around the school; this would involve irrigation, plants, mulch, concrete block garden edge; most of this work would be done via working bees to reduce costs. |
| Multipurpose Court | To revamp the netball and tennis court facilities. |
| Concrete Stencils | This project was started in 2014 via a working bee; handball courts and various other concrete stencils were painted on concrete areas around the school. |
| Soccer Nets | The frames needs to be either repaired or replaced and nets added. |

At the up-coming P&C meeting, we will be considering these projects so please forward any comments around these projects or other ideas for consideration to the P&C via email, pandc@emeraldss.eq.edu.au . The next meeting will take place on the 19th March at 6:30pm in the Conference Room of the Administration Block and all are welcome to attend.

With thanks
Toni Williams (P&C President)

Fete News

Please check with your children if a Fete newsletter has been received. Every effort will be made to send them home on Fridays but in some cases important information will be sent home on alternate days.

Please note that Fete Newsletters will be sent via email to all those parents who received the School Newsletter via email. This will save time and costs. It will also provide access to all forms and documents for future reference. If you would like to receive your newsletters via email please contact Angela at acham23@eq.edu.au and you will be added to the list to receive both the School Newsletter and Fete Newsletters.

If you think you can help in any way please contact Anne Self. All help is welcome and needed. We are still seeking someone to take the lead on the Cent Sale, Cane Toad Races and decorations.

PLEASE NOTE that we need parents to help run the stalls on Fete night. Look out for the roster form, fill out and return to the fete box in the office with the times you are available.

Thank you
EMERALD DISTRICT FORUM SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

Are you like the majority of the population and lack confidence to speak in front of people?
Would you like to know how to run and participate in correct meeting procedures?
The solution is here! Take action today! Join the Emerald District Forum Group.
Emerald District Forum is an organisation that supports members on their learning journey into the world of public speaking and formal meeting procedure.
Have fun and meet new people as you grow in confidences and learn new skills.
For more information about joining Emerald District Forum
Phone Gai Sypher 04993222121

Emerald and District Athletics Association Inc.
2015 Season Sign-On
Sunday March 22nd and 29th
4.00pm-5.00pm
Club House-Marist College Oval
New Athletes 5 years and over welcome
Sign up is $95 per Athlete
BIRTH CERTIFICATES ARE REQUIRED FOR NEW REGISTRATIONS ONLY
Season commences Sunday 19th April with a come and try day
1.45pm 5 years to Masters
First Club Day on the 26th April 2015
For more information please contact Wayne Gakowski on 4982 0746 or mobile 0411717477

TRIVA with a cause!
To benefit Chris “Maxi” Guernieri and family
SATURDAY MAY 16TH
St Patricks School Emerald
DOORS OPEN AT 6.45PM –TRVIA STARTS AT 7.15PM
$30 per person includes a drink on arrival & nibbles
Table of 8-tickets available at the office of St Pat’s School
NERD ATTIRE OR FANCY COSTUMES ENCOURAGED
Cash bar and live entertainment until late

EMERALD STATE SCHOOL FETE
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH
5:30PM – 9:30PM
Cnr Anakie & Yamala Streets

RIDES & SLIDES
WIN A SAMSUNG TABLET
when you buy a pre-paid
Unlimited Ride Deal
$30 per person.
Drawn on the night!
Email: AnneSelf
anniegr@bigpond.net.au
to arrange arm band/s
or $35 at the FETE.
NEW: Splatt Sponge Attack

International Food Court / Entertainment / Old McDonald’s Farm / Cent Sale / Home Produce / Coffee Shop / Multi Draw Easter Hamper Raffles / Class Stalls and much more.

LOADS OF FUN FOR EVERYONE!